

Meridian Community Board Minutes
April 11, 2006
7:00 P.M.

Minutes of a Regular School Board Meeting of March 23, 2006

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Meridian Community Unit School District #223 was called to order by President Ron Steenken on March 23, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Meridian District Board of Education Room located in the Meridian Junior High School. Members present: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes, Larson and Reeverts. Superintendent Prusator and Principals Hedemann, Coulahan, Mandzen and Dean of Students/AD Rude were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Bonne, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the March 9, 2006 board meeting and the payroll of April 5, 2006. Ayes: Bonne, Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Reeverts and Steenken. Abstain: Glendenning. Motion carried.

Mr. Prusator handed out and reviewed the change in the OCEC central cost formula. Mr. Prusator also handed out an updated "Board Goals and Priorities for 2006-2007" list.

Mrs. Hedemann reported that the Terra Nova testing was completed. Rainbow Writer's Rally was last Friday. Highland honored all of the classroom representatives. Mrs. Hedemann invited board members to read their stories located in the case at Highland. Highland had a coffeecake fundraiser that yielded a profit of about \$3000 that will be used for leveled reading materials. Kindergarten and Pre-K students traveled to Rockford on March 16 for a performance of "If You Give A Mouse A Cookie". On March 14th, a transformer blew and Highland students were evacuated to SVHS. Students and staff did a great job during the evacuation.

Mr. Coulahan reported that the state-required ISAT tests were completed. The results will be reported during the next school year. The Young Author representative from Monroe Center is Kassie Paul. Mr. Coulahan would like her to read her story to the board at the next meeting. Monroe Center School continues to be a busy and exciting place for students to learn and grow. Children need to be reminded to stay on top of their studies to finish strongly. Parents are invited and welcome to attend the MC Awards Ceremonies and Field Day that will be happening late in May. The fifth grade students will be attending Lorado Taft next year from August 30 - September 1. Some volunteers are still needed.

Mr. Mandzen reported the Prairie State Achievement Examination would be on April 26th and 27th. During a recent faculty meeting, SVHS teachers were part of a webex conference through Discovery Education on streaming video for the classroom.

Thousands of videos and other classroom resources are available to our teachers through the internet. SVHS has a 90 day free trial period. SVHS has successfully completed their First Peer Review Team Visit from the NCA external committee. SVHS has received feedback from the external team and has shared the information with the staff. The NCA steering team is currently reviewing the recommendations. The first run of the 2006-2007 schedule for students should be complete by the end of April. Mr. Mandzen stated that Mrs. Winter is doing a great job getting that accomplished.

Mr. Rude reported the Winter Sports Banquet was held last Tuesday. He updated the board on the start dates for the spring sports. He stated that he will be utilizing the automated phone system and the website for event cancellations.

Under Notices and Communications, Mr. Prusator thanked Dana Kunce and Jean Welker for their participation in the TAG meeting on volunteers. He stated that it was a productive day.

Under Community Input, Julie Foss commented on what a tremendous job the students and support staff, office staff, and lunch duties did during the evacuation of Highland. Kim Flynn commented that she appreciated the phone notification system. She also commented on the school calendar regarding the August start date and the heat in the classrooms at Highland.

Mr. Prusator handed out and reviewed the 2006-2007 school calendar. He reviewed the process used to create the calendar stating the two main reasons for the proposed calendar was so that SVHS first semester could be done before the Christmas break and the strong desire to coordinate the calendar with the other schools with whom we have shared courses.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Janes, to approve the 2006-2007 official school calendar as presented. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Prusator handed out and reviewed a list of people committed to work on the Long Range Planning and Facility Committee. An additional four people are needed from the Monroe Center area to complete the list. The first meeting of the committee will be held on May 4th.

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Steenken, to approve the Long Range Planning and Facility Committee as presented with additions. Ayes: Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mandzen reviewed the proposed new textbooks for SVHS. They will be on display at SVHS until the next board meeting.

Under Board Comments, Mr. Glendenning stated that he had most of the building and grounds surveys back, will compile the results, and review at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Janes, seconded by Reeverts, to adjourn to closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the district. Ayes: Janes, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 8:01 p.m.

A motion was made by Janes, seconded by Bonne to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 11:28 p.m.

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Reeverts, to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2006 executive session as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Reeverts, to accept the annual evaluations of building principals as presented. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Jagielski, to accept the resignation of Joanne Hedemann, Highland School principal, effective at end of current contract. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Janes, seconded by Bonne, to accept the resignation of Carri Murphy, SVHS social studies teacher, effective at end of current school year. Ayes: Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Reeverts, to accept the resignation of Tim Bukoski, SVHS assistant softball coach, effective immediately. Ayes: Janes, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Janes, seconded by Jagielski, to hire the following: Gary Larson, SVHS lunch cashier; Kimberly Ray, 2nd grade classroom aide (due to numbers); Cynthia Eubanks, Title 1 aide; Linda-Kahle-Langston, MJH head 7th grade girls' basketball coach; Heather Alderks, MJH assistant girls' track coach (due to numbers); Brent Hall, SVHS assistant softball coach (replaces Bukoski); and Glen Kirk, MJH head boys' track coach. Ayes: Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Glendenning, seconded by Bonne, to accept the transfer of Jayce Bolhous to lead technology technician. Ayes: Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes, Larson, and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Reeverts, to accept winter head coaches evaluations. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Janes, to continue employment of tenured certified teachers per list. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Janes, seconded by Bonne, to continue employment of tenured part-time certified staff. Ayes: Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Jagielski, to move fourth year teachers to tenured status per list. Ayes: Janes, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Janes, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Fruin, Secretary